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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Red Carpet Kids event showcases videos of adoptable children**

**Littleton, Colo.** – Arapahoe and Jefferson Counties welcome interested residents to attend Red Carpet Kids, an annual event to debut new profile videos of children who are awaiting adoption in both counties. Adoptive parents become a 'forever family' to children who can no longer live with their biological families due to unresolved concerns for their safety and well being.

Red Carpet Kids will take place 5:30 – 8 p.m., June 13 at Foothills Community Church, 8270 W. 80<sup>th</sup> Ave, #2, Arvada. Attendees will view a compilation of short videos of 29 youth that were filmed this spring, out of more than 60 who are awaiting adoption in both counties. Guests will also have a chance to speak to the childrens' caseworkers. The children will not be in attendance.

The profile videos are intended to capture the personality of each child while doing activities that he or she enjoys, such as playing games, doing arts and crafts or playing outside. For example, Anthony Y., age 9 has been awaiting adoption since March 2009. His profile video will reveal a very sweet, fun-loving boy who would love to play games and have a pet someday with his forever family. The profile video for Sylena, age 15, will reveal her encouraging and likeable nature and her diverse interests, from competing on the high school swim team to volunteering at a horse ranch.

To become an adoptive family through Arapahoe or Jefferson County, residents must submit a formal application, pass a background check and home study and attend an eight-week, no-cost training series. To qualify to adopt, you must be at least 21 years of age, be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the U.S., have adequate space and a bed for the child, have a stable, self-sustaining income, and be healthy enough to care for a child. You may be single or a couple, but spouses or live-in partners must also commit to the process.

To reserve a seat at Red Carpet Kids, please call Mindy Heckler at 303-636-1661 or Beth Cassese at 303-271-4038. Special thanks to Chris Koehler for offering discounted videography services. To learn more about foster care, adoption or volunteering through Arapahoe or Jefferson Counties, please call 303-636-1KID or visit [www.collaborativefostercare.com](http://www.collaborativefostercare.com).

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To download photos click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/AdoptionAnthony.jpg> - Anthony, age 9, is one of 29 youth awaiting a forever family who will be profiled at the Red Carpet Kids video premiere on June 13.